

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the above identified application in view of the preceding amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested. Claims 1, 3-8 and 10-14 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, Applicants have cancelled Claims 2 and 9 without prejudice and amended Claims 1, 3-6, 8 and 10-13.

Applicant's representative would like to thank Examiner Desir for the courtesies extended during our recent telephone conversations. During a telephone conversation on June 29, 2004, the applicant's representative conferred with Examiner Desir to discuss the above amendments. It is respectfully submitted that no new matter has been introduced by these amendments.

In the outstanding *final* Office Action dated February 9, 2004, Claims 1-14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) over U.S. Patent No. 6,549,240 to Reitmeier.

Reitmeier discloses a format and frame rate conversion for display of 24Hz source video within the context of a digital television. The digital television has a video processing section including a video decoder 120. The video decoder 120 receives a video stream S2 in a standard manner and produces a decoded video signal S4 having a given transmission format and frame rate. An optional de-interlacer 130 converts the video signal from an interlaced format to a progressive scan format. A vertical resizer 140 and a horizontal resizer 150 are used to convert the picture format. The resized and de-interlaced signal is fed into a frame buffer 160 for storing the video information. The frame buffer 160 is only utilized by the vertical resizer 140.

The subject claims are not rendered obvious by the Reitmeier. In particular, there is nothing in Reitmeier that discloses or suggests, in whole or in part, the

signal processing unit defined by Claim 1 of the subject application. In particular, there is nothing in Reitmeier which discloses or suggests, a signal processing unit for a digital TV system including a first device which acts on a video signal with graphical picture elements and text characters to produce a first device output video signal, a second device which converts a frame rate of the first device output video signal to produce an increased frame rate video signal, a picture storage device operatively connected to the first and second devices for storing picture data for the first and second devices, and a driver stage which drives a display responsive to the increased frame rate video signal. Consequently, the number of components are efficiently reduced because the first and second device share a picture storage device.

Regarding Claim 8, there is nothing in Reitmeier that discloses or suggests, in whole or in part, the method defined by Claim 8 of the subject application. In particular, there is nothing in Reitmeier which discloses or suggests, a method for processing a digital TV system signal including the steps of acting by a first device on an input video signal with graphical picture elements and text characters to produce a processed video signal, increasing by a second device the frame rate of the processed video signal to produce an increased frame rate video signal, storing the pictures in a common storage device during the acting step and the increasing step, and driving a display responsive to the increased frame rate video signal. As a result, circuitry for storing pictures for the first and second devices is reduced because the common storage device is utilized by both.

In view of the above, Claims 1 and 8 and each of the remaining claims depending therefrom are not rendered obvious by the reference cited by the Examiner, and withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is respectfully requested.



Serial No.: 09/894,815

PATENT

Any additional fees or overpayments due as a result of filing the present paper may be applied to Deposit Account No. 04-1105. It is respectfully submitted that all of the claims now remaining in this application are in condition for allowance, and such action is earnestly solicited.

If after reviewing this amendment, the Examiner believes that a telephone interview would facilitate the resolution of any remaining matters the undersigned attorney may be contacted at the number set forth herein below.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: July 7, 2004

George Chaclas
George N. Chaclas, Reg. No. 46,608
Edwards & Angell LLP
Attorney for Applicants
P.O. Box 55874
Boston, MA 02205-5874
Tel: (860) 541-7720
Fax: (888) 325-1684